

**Approved 06/12/08**

**Exeter Fire District**

**(May 8, 2008)**

**Call to Order**

**Chairman Peter Lacouture called the May meeting of the Exeter Fire District to order at 7:12pm. Present were commissioners Lacouture, Wilbur, Nievera, Gallagher and Rooney. There was one member of the public in attendance.**

### **Public Comment**

**Woody Davis (Pres. EVFD#1) re-iterated a worsening problem at his fire department, that of emergency response during the daytime hours. He noted that with there being so few employers in town, most of his members work out of town and thus are not available for emergencies during normal working hours.**

### **Election of Officers**

**In accordance with Art. VI, Sect. 2 of the bylaws of the Exeter Fire District:**

**Mr. Wilbur nominated (Mr. Nievera second) Mr. Lacouture for the office of Chairman.**

**Mr. Nievera nominated (Mr. Lacouture second) Mr. Wilbur for the office of Vice-Chairman.**

**Mr. Nievera nominated (Mr. Gallagher second) Ms. Caito for the office**

**of Treasurer.**

**Mr. Gallagher nominated (Mr. Wilbur second) Mr. Nievera for the office of Clerk.**

**The slate of nominees was voted upon and approved unanimously.**

### **Treasurer's Report**

**Mr. Nievera moved (Mr. Wilbur second) the report of the treasurer until the next regularly scheduled (06/12) meeting of the board. The motion carried unanimously. Mr. Nievera advised the board that he had compared the bank statement dated 03/10/08 and its' figures agree with those of Ms. Caito.**

### **Previous Month's Minutes**

**Mr. Nievera moved (Mr. Lacouture second) that comments and acceptance of the minutes of the March meeting be postponed until the next regularly scheduled (06/12) meeting of the board. That motion carried unanimously. It was requested that Mr. Nievera re-circulate the previously mentioned minutes at his convenience. He agreed to do so.**

### **Communications**

**Mr. Nievera reported that all operational mail had been given to the treasurer for her action. Mr. Nievera also indicated that he had**

received a phone call from Janet Craigan asking that he extend the thanks of the BOC workers for the prompt payment of their stipends. He also said the he had thanked Mr. Cerullo for his services as moderator for the annual meeting. An e-mail was also received from Scott Kettelle informing the board that EVFD#1 will be forming a “stake holder’s committee” to investigate the feasibility of the fire department assuming control of the Exeter Rescue Corps. Lastly, a “motion for release from stay” has been received and will be kept on file in the tax collector’s office. Mr. Lacouture moved (Mr. Rooney second) that Mr. Nievera draft a letter to Chief Caito asking that the addition to the rescue building under consideration be postponed until the stake holder’s committee has reported it’s findings. The motion carried 4 – 0, with Mr. Gallagher abstaining. Mr. Nievera agreed to do so at his earliest opportunity.

## **Old Business**

Mr. Lacouture noted that he thought a good job had been done by all involved with the recent annual meeting. It was generally agreed that all went very well and that a great deal of work remains before us.

Mr. Nievera gave a brief status report on the upcoming tax sale. He noted that due to the efforts of the collector, the list had been whittled down to seven properties (from 117). And that four of them are currently in negotiations to pay their accounts prior to the sale date. He also reported that the current collection rate stands at about 84% midway thru the final collection period. Mr. Gallagher asked what

would happen should no one bid on a property up for tax sale. Mr. Lacouture suggested that Bridget be asked about that possibility. Mr. Nievera will get that question to Ms. McMahon for her next conversation with RI Tax Titles LLC.

Mr. Nievera reported that he planned on waiting a little longer to purchase a copier for the office noting the many sales he has seen in the media. Mr. Rooney said that he may have a line on a good copier. Mr. Rooney will contact Mr. Nievera. Mr. Gallagher also indicated that he may have a copier available to the district and will contact Mr. Nievera regarding its availability. Mr. Nievera is also planning on the purchase of a headset for the collector allowing her to post and talk on the phone simultaneously. These items will be purchased with the last year's legislative grant money.

All were in agreement that since the Ad Hoc committees had been started and some amount of headway made in their respective areas, that they should be addressed with more drive in the coming year. These committees include the Cost Consolidation, Capital Expenditure and ISO.

Woody Davis (President, EVFD#1) stated that he believed the Fire District would be invited to sit on the stake holders committee. If that is to be the case, Mr. Rooney will be available to represent the Fire District.

## **New Business**

Mr. Nievera reported that Larry Aker has expressed an interest in

filling the unexpired portion of Mr. Whitford's term. Mr. Whitford has resigned his seat on the board in accordance with the bylaws (residency). Mr. Lacouture suggested that a short article be placed in the Standard Times and that interviews could be held during the next (06/12) meeting. Mr. Lacouture will draft something and send it to Mr. Nievera within the week. Mr. Nievera will also post the notice at the usual posting locations in town.

### **Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the Exeter Fire District Board of Commissioners will be held on Thursday, June 12 at the Exeter Public Library. The meeting will be held in the program room and will begin at 7:00pm.

### **Adjournment**

Mr. Wilbur moved (Mr. Gallagher second) adjournment at 8:21pm. The motion carried unanimously.

**Respectfully Submitted,**

**Bill Nievera, Clerk**

**Exeter Fire District**